

Appl. No. 10/681,497  
Response to OA of 10/30/2008 and Request for Continued Examination

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Amended, Canceled, and New Claims

1. (Currently Amended) In the method for forming lignocellulosic thermoplastic polyolefin composite products containing 25 to 75 percent by weight of the polyolefin material such as to increase their resistance to surface visual impairment caused by mold attack, the improvement which comprises incorporating an amount of a boron containing fungicide cationic salt of boric acid in the range of from about 2 to 12 percent by weight of said composite product prior to forming said composite product.
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which said amount of boron-containing fungicide cationic salt of boric acid is in the range of from about 3 to about 5 percent by weight of said composite.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which said thermoplastic polyolefin material is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, high density polyethylene, polystyrene, and polyvinyl chloride polypropylene.
6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which said boron-containing fungicide cationic salt of boric acid is calcium borate.
10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which said boron-containing fungicide is boric acid polyolefin material is polyethylene or high density polyethylene.
11. (Canceled)
14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which said boron-containing fungicide cationic salt of boric acid is zinc borate.

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15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) In the method for forming composite products consisting of a thermoplastic polyolefin material which is 25 to 75 percent by weight of the total composite, a lignocellulosic material, and at least one of the group consisting of a lubricant, a cross-linking agent, a UV stabilizer, a blowing agent, an inhibitor, and a coupling agent such as to increase their resistance to surface visual impairment caused by mold attack, the improvement which consists of incorporating an amount of a boron-containing fungicide cationic salt of boric acid selected from the group of zinc borate, synthetic calcium borate, colemanite, ulexite, boric acid, or mixtures thereof in the range of from about 2 to 12 percent by weight of said composite product.

17. (Canceled)

18. (New) In the method for forming composite products consisting of lignocellulosic high density polyethylene and at least one of the group consisting of a lubricant, a cross-linking agent, a UV stabilizer, an inhibitor, and a coupling agent such as to increase their resistance to surface visual impairment caused by mold attack, the improvement which consists of incorporating an amount of synthetic calcium borate, colemanite, ulexite or mixtures thereof in the range of from about 3 to 5 percent by weight of said composite product prior to forming said composite product.